

REMARKS

5 Claims 1 and 5-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chang et al. USP 5,841,165. Claims 2-4 and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

1. Objection to the specification:

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

10 A "bit line voltage (V_{BL}) is applied to the P^+ doped source region 134 of the first PMOS transistor 101" in a paragraph [0026] of a specification is contrary to "the P^+ doped drain region 132 of the first PMOS transistor 101 is electrically connected with a bit line 170 through contact plug 150" in a paragraph [0024] (see Fig.3A).

15 To overcome this objection, clerical errors in paragraphs [0026], [0027], and [0031] of the specification have been corrected to consist with Fig.3A. In the above-mentioned paragraphs of the specification of the present application, " P^+ doped source region 134" is replaced with " P^+ doped drain region 132", as seen in the above AMENDMENT section. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment, consideration of which is politely requested.

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2. Rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b):

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), for reasons of record that can be found on pages 2-3 in the Office action identified above, which is part of paper no.2.

25 To overcome this rejection, claim 1 has been amended. The limitation in claim 2 that is found allowable by the Examiner is now merged into claim 1. No new matter is entered. Reconsideration of the amended claim 1 is therefore politely requested.

30 None of the prior arts discloses "*an N-type doped region formed in the P-type substrate beneath the floating gate serving as an erase gate in the vicinity of the first PMOS transistor*", as required by the amended claim 1. Accordingly, the Applicants suggest that the amended claim 1 is now in condition for allowance, and such action is therefore respectfully requested.

3. Amendment to claim 9:

35 Claim 9 is amended based on the context as set forth in the paragraph [0031] on pages 8 and 9 of the specification of the present application for emphasizing the features of this invention. No new matter is introduced.

40 It is respectfully suggested that none of the cited references, alone or in combination, teach or make obvious all of the limitations of the amended claim 9. Reconsideration of the amended claim 9 is therefore politely requested.

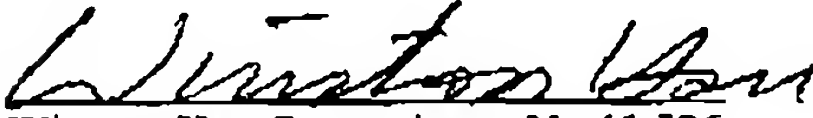
4. Rejection on claims 5-9 and objection over claims 2-4 and 10:

Claims 5-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Claims 2-4 and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening

claims.

Accordingly, claim 2 has been merged into claim 1 and has therefore been canceled in this amendment. As claims 3-10 are dependent upon the amended independent claim 1, they should be allowable if the amended claim 1 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 3-10 is therefore politely requested.

Sincerely yours,


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